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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9695  
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2613  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1217  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 1807  
RUEHUM/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR 0466  
RUEHCN/AMCONSUL CHENGDU 0371  
RUEHCHI/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 2021  
RUEHGH/AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU 3524  
RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHANGHAI 0041  
RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHENYANG 0304  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1668

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 003759

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/26/2016  
TAGS: [PREF](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [KN](#) [KS](#) [TH](#)  
SUBJECT: UNHCR NOTIFIES EMBASSY OF INTEREST OF DETAINED  
NORTH KOREAN IN U.S. RESETTLEMENT

REF: STATE 58514

Classified By: POLITICAL COUNSELOR SUSAN SUTTON, REASON 1.4 (B,D)

11. (U) This is an action request. See para. 5.

12. (C) On June 26, UNHCR notified Embassy that a North Korean woman currently in the Immigration Detention Center (IDC) in Bangkok has expressed interest in U.S. refugee resettlement. UNHCR reported that in the course of the regular interview for resettlement to the ROK, the woman stated a strong preference for the U.S. UNHCR has now suspended its procedures for submitting her case to the ROK.

13. (C) UNHCR obtained the following information about the woman during an interviewing and counseling session conducted by the ROK secondee to UNHCR on June 23. The woman left the DPRK for China on July 28, 1998. She reportedly lived in China until coming to Bangkok on February 23, 2006. She was arrested and sent to the IDC on April 20. The woman said she has no relatives in the United States. Since converting to Christianity about four years ago, she has dreamed about studying the Bible in the United States. She told the UNHCR interviewer that the ROK would be a more suitable country in terms of cultural affinity, language, and living adjustment. However, she wished to start a new life from scratch. She asked how long she would wait until she hears from the U.S. and if the U.S. would take her. UNHCR told her that the U.S. would make the decision and the waiting period could not be determined. The UNHCR secondee determined that the woman was North Korean.

14. (C) Biodata. Name: KIM Weon Ok, DOB: March 28, 1977.

15. (C) Please provide guidance on whether post should take further steps in processing the case of Ms. Kim.  
ARVIZU